



# ATF News

Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives  
Los Angeles Field Division

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## ATF PROMOTES A SAFE NEW YEAR'S CELEBRATION

LOS ANGELES – John A. Torres, Special Agent in Charge, Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF), Los Angeles Field Division, reminds the public to celebrate the arrival of the New Year responsibly and safely.

Celebratory gunfire is not only unsafe — it is against the law. Discharging a firearm into the air is a crime and can lead to felony charges under California state law. Bullets shot into the air can climb two miles and then fall at a rate of 300 to 700 feet per second.

“ATF wants to ensure that all those who are planning on celebrating on New Year’s Eve, to do so in a safe environment that is free of celebratory gunfire that could severely injure or kill someone,” Torres said.

In addition to celebratory gunfire, ATF is reminding the public that the use of illegal fireworks is also prohibited. Illegal fireworks meet no safety standards and can be deadly in the hands of children. Federally banned fireworks include M-80s, M-100s, Silver Salutes and Cherry Bombs.

“If you see anyone shooting a gun into the air or using illegal fireworks, please contact your local police department immediately or ATF at **1-800-ATF-GUNS (800-283-4867)**,” Torres said.

For more information on ATF and its programs, visit [www.atf.gov](http://www.atf.gov).

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